

REMARKS

In view of the foregoing amendments and the following remarks, Applicants respectfully request reexamination of the present application. Claims 174 and 184 have been amended and Claim 175 has been cancelled. Applicants acknowledge with appreciation that Claims 150-173 are allowed.

Claim Rejections

The Examiner has rejected Claims 174, 177, 187 and 189 under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 5,421,854 to Kodas et al. The Examiner has also rejected Claims 180, 182 and 183 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Kodas et al.


Applicants have amended independent Claim 174 to incorporate the limitation of Claim 175 and Claim 175 has been cancelled. Therefore, removal of these rejections is requested.

The Examiner has rejected Claims 174-227 under the judicially created doctrine of obviousness-type double patenting as being unpatentable over Claims 20-53 of U.S. Patent No. 6,165,247 by Kodas et al. Upon the indication of otherwise allowable subject matter, Applicants will submit an appropriate Terminal Disclaimer.

In the event that a telephone conversation would further prosecute and or expedite allowance, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned.

Respectfully submitted,

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